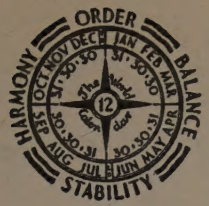

A NEW CALENDAR FOR A NEW WORLD

VOL. XII THIRD QUARTER, 1942 No. 3

America Awake, Act, Achieve

"The Committee recognizes the desirability of a separate, regular and perpetual calendar and believes that the 12 months' calendar proposed by The World Calendar Association is probably the most desirable of the various plans which have been proposed. . . ."—*Committee on Scope and Program of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.*

This important and significant opinion was expressed at the annual meeting of the onference held at Detroit in August. (See pages 69-72 in this issue.)

As to action taken for the adoption of the new time-plan, the Committee said:

"It felt that the matter was wholly outside of anything that the National Conference on Uniform State Laws could consider as it would be a matter for National or International action and on which, by necessity, the arrangements would have to be made by the Government of the United States through Treaty arrangements or otherwise."

These opinions are valuable, coming from a group of distinguished lawyers appointed by their respective Governors to serve as delegates.

The World Calendar Association conveys herewith these opinions to the Government of the United States for its earnest and urgent consideration for action. The Association believes that a real opportunity is open to our Government to deal with the ubject now, and to cooperate with the six Latin-American countries which have offially endorsed The World Calendar.

Our Government can well take the lead in adopting a new and better time-plan hich would materially facilitate our war efforts and establish a more just and durable me-measurement for peace than is possible under our present time-system. Such doption would certainly have a world-wide influence for international cooperation and orld unity.

It will be a sixth time in over six thousand years that the calendar will have been anged: the first, in Northern Africa; the others, in Southern Europe. It is logical and tting, then, that the newly revised civil calendar of today should be given to civiliza- on through the newer and Western Hemisphere.

As America showed the way in establishing a new form of government for free- om and the inalienable rights of man, so she can likewise show the way in a new form f time—for order, balance and stability. Both of these new forms are epochal and lobal. Both are history-making. The new civil World Calendar would contribute imeasurably to our civilization that moves ever forward in the march of time toward reater progress. There can be no progress without change.

The time is short—1945; there must be no delay.

America awake, act, and achieve!

Journal of

CALENDAR REFORM

July, August, September
1942

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CHARLES C. SUTTER, Editor
Published by THE WORLD CALENDAR ASSOCIATION, INC.
INTERNATIONAL BUILDING : 630 FIFTH AVE., N. Y. C.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

Detroit, August 18-22, 1942

OMPOSED of delegates officially designated by the Governors of the 48 States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines, the NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS meets each year in conjunction with the American Bar Association, of which they are an *ex officio* committee.

An invitation to attend the Conference was extended to Miss Elisabeth Achelis, President of The World Calendar Association, by Mr. Joseph O'Connell of Boston, Chairman of the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Mr. O'Connell wrote the World Calendar Association that the object of the Conference, as stated in its constitution is, "to promote uniformity in State laws of subjects where uniformity is deemed desirable and practicable . . . to draft Model Acts on subjects suitable for Interstate Compacts and subjects in which uniformity will make more effective the exercise of stated powers and promote interstate cooperation."

General Nathan William MacChesney, Chairman of the Conference's Committee on Scope and Program, extended Miss Achelis an invitation to appear at a hearing of that committee, Tuesday evening, August 18, on the subject of The World Calendar. Miss Achelis delivered the following brief address:

ADDRESS

Your conference has a noteworthy purpose: To unify State laws and thereby bring about a greater unity and coordination among the States. You are then in a strategic position to evaluate coordination in other proposals as well as the legal. I refer to the proposal of a more efficient organization of our time-measurement, the civil calendar.

Faced as we are today with the most urgent crisis of our history, time has become a most vital possession. Time may win or lose the war for us—and there is no question that it will be equally important in the peace that will follow.

Our present measuring rod is everything it should not be. It is in its way as unsatisfactory as is the lack of uniformity in the laws among the different States which your conference is striving to correct. Our present calendar is causing similar confusion, overlapping and disagreement. Days and dates never agree; months are irregular; weeks are vagrant; quarter and half-years are unequal in length; and every year changes.

Let us draw a parallel.

Consider the United States the calendar and the States the various time-units. Although the "United States" is an entity, the "States" are wholly disorganized. There is no uniformity in their function, law or purpose. The "Day-States" have no definite place; the "Week-States" go on their own initiative, regardless of all else; the "Month-States" vary unceasingly; the "Quarter-Year-States" lack conformity and the "Half-Year-States" are never the same. The "Year-State" constantly poaches on a neighboring "Week-State" to complete itself; by this, I mean the day that the year must borrow from the following week of the new year. The "country" internally is in a chaotic state of confusion and uncertainty. And why? Because there exists no coordination and cooperation among these "States"; they have no joint plan, order, equality or unity.

Our seemingly harmless and innocuous calendar is really a detriment to our united effort for more permanent cooperation.

In contrast, gentlemen, the new World Calendar of 12 months and equal quarters has a well-laid plan of order, coordination, unity and stability. Mathematically it is a masterly plan wherein every time-unit fits and functions equitably with every other.

Now let us parallel the new World Calendar with the United States:

The United States once again is the calendar and the States the various time-units of which it is composed. But note the difference. The "Day-States" have their regular place in this new "United States"; the "Week-States" have been adjusted to cooperate and are now helpful "States" among the others; the "Month-States" meet their requirements and capabilities; the "Quarter-Year-States" and the "Half-Year-States" have become uniform in purpose and action; and the "Year-State" with its new World Holiday no longer poaches upon a neighboring "State." All these "States" function to their fullest capacity within their own law yet they all contribute to the uniformity of law. Although they are each an individual part they all help form the "United States of America."

The new World Calendar like the United States has become a model of *E Pluribus Unum.* There is established a new order of time as there was established approximately a century and a half ago a new order of government in the United States. In brief this explains the new World Calendar.

Allow me to recall that Standard clock time was effected November 18, 1883, by the American Railway Association and that Congress on March 19, 1918, during the World War, and this is pertinent, requested the Interstate Commerce Commission to establish the time zones in this country. Thus was our clock time made uniform and stabilized and became the standard pattern for the United States and for the entire world. And more recently Congress has approved War Time throughout our entire country, making our clock time more uniform according to the necessary time

nes. [There are four time zones in our country.—Ed.]

What the Railway Association and the Interstate Commerce Commission successfully achieved in the past your Conference on Uniform State ws can accomplish with our present unsatisfactory calendar. It can be ade a time-measurement as uniform, stable and ordered as is our clock me. We, therefore, request that your Conference seriously take under nsideration this new civil calendar, The World Calendar of 12 months d equal quarters, and become a pioneer as did the Railway Association d the Interstate Commerce Commission with respect to the establishent of Standard Time.

We hope a study will be made by a Committee so that at the earliest portunity its findings may be presented and receive whole-hearted endrsement. For the time for action is here and now if we are to use it by 945 and to profit by its many advantages.

May we refer you for more detailed information to the pamphlet, *The orld Calendar . . . A New Calendar for a New World,*—especially calg your attention to pages 15, 16, and 17; also page 6 which explains 945 as the logical year for the adoption of the new civil calendar—The orld Calendar.

Correspondence

The exchange of communications between General Nathan William acChesney, Chairman of the Committee on Scope and Program, and the resident of The World Calendar Association on the subject of Calendar eform follows:

August 19, 1942

General Nathan William MacChesney
Hotel Statler
Detroit, Michigan

My dear General MacChesney:

In regard to calendar reform:

Were the States, such as New York, Michigan, Illinois, California and others to go on record in favor of The World Calendar, not putting it into operation; and

Were they to request the President or Congress or both to call an International or a Pan-American Conference on the subject; and

Were the President and Congress to know that the States are in favor of this; then

An International or Pan-American Conference could be called by the United States and probably be held in Washington, D.C., within 1942 or 1943, with the assurance that the States favor this, and the conference would meet with success. The new World Calendar could then go into effect on December 30, 1944, and January 1, 1945, would see the new time-plan in operation.

For the States to *favor* the new calendar seems to me to be the important thing *now.*

Will you kindly show this letter to Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Llewellyn?

With sincere appreciation of your courtesy in inviting me to a hearing yesterday evening and confident of its being productive, I remain

Very sincerely,

(*Signed*) Elisabeth Achelis

August 20, 1942

Miss Elisabeth Achelis, President
The World Calendar Association
630 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Miss Achelis:

In Re: N.C.C.U.S.L.—Committee on Scope and Program—World Calendar.

Following your appearance before the Committee on Scope and Program, the matter of The World Calendar was thoroughly discussed and a report was made to the Executive Committee.

While the Committee recognizes the desirability of a separate, regular and perpetual calendar and believes that the twelve months calendar proposed by The World Calendar Association is probably the most desirable of the various plans which have been proposed, it felt that the matter was wholly outside of anything that the National Conference on Uniform State Laws could consider as it would be a matter for National or International action and on which, by necessity, the arrangements would have to be made by the Government of the United States through Treaty arrangements or otherwise.

The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws is an official body set up by the various states and supported by them. It does not undertake to act as a reform organization or to make any recommendations with regard to Federal legislature and inasmuch as this is a matter capable of being handled by the State legislature as such, it is outside the scope of the National Conference.

Regretting that we cannot cooperate with you but wishing you success in promoting the calendar, I beg to remain

Very truly yours,
(*Signed*) Nathan William MacChesney
Chairman

To this reply, which General MacChesney kindly handed in person to Miss Achelis with the remark "I am sorry," she wrote to him expressing her sincere gratitude to Mr. O'Connell in placing The World Calendar before the Committee and appreciating the courtesy of the Chairman of the Committee on Scope and Program in giving her a hearing on the subject. She also voiced her gratification at the Committee's favorable opinion of The World Calendar, which she assumed could be made public. She expressed her opinion that in one respect there had been success. Even though no action was taken, The World Calendar plan had now become a subject better known and understood by the Committee members and the National Conference. Miss Achelis stated her confidence that the interest of members would continue "with an ever increasing desire for seeing the new and better time-plan approved and adopted by the United States at the earliest opportunity"—as well as by other nations.

Throughout the conversations and talks that came to her knowledge no objection was raised to the plan. Its adoption was considered inevitable, and frequent expressions of regret were heard that, because it lay outside the scope of the Conference, no immediate action could be taken.

A DESIRABLE REFORM

By JULES I. BOGEN
Editor, "The Journal of Commerce"
Professor of Finance, New York University

THE year 1943 begins on a Friday. Shall we issue the annual review of our newspaper on Saturday, January 2, when most businessmen who are our readers will probably be away from their offices to take advantage of a long week-end? Or should we issue the review on Monday, January 4, when more than half of the first week of the year will already have elapsed?

Lincoln's Birthday, next year, falls on Friday. How many people will go to work the following Saturday, which thus rudely interrupts what would otherwise be a pleasantly extended week-end? Once again, editors will face a situation in which an ordinary date, February 13, 1943, takes on the character of a holiday because of the accidents of the Gregorian calendar.

The World Calendar will eliminate such problems for the publisher and the businessman. January 2 will always fall on Monday. The first business week of the year will always begin on the first business day. It will be possible to plan ahead from year to year. No longer will a New Year's Day date in the week produce an extended week-end which may make the first actual business day of the year January 4 or January 5, as a practical matter.

COMPLICATED COMPARISONS

Great progress has been made during recent years in measuring business phenomena. We have regular statistics on railroad car-loadings, on production of nearly all types of goods, on distribution, on building, on foreign trade. It is the duty of the business journalist to report such statistics regularly, and to interpret them for business readers.

Interpretation is made unnecessarily complicated and difficult, however, by the changing length of the business periods compared. Car-loadings in January of one year are 10 per cent higher than they were in the corresponding period last year. Is this significant? We cannot tell unless we first know how many Saturdays and Sundays there were in the two Januaries. If January 1 fell on Sunday, Monday, January 2, was not a business day, and car-loadings were reduced for that day as a result. If January 1 came on Monday, there was no such additional day of curtailed railway traffic due to the holiday.

Again, as weekly statistics of business make their appearance, we make comparisons with a year ago. With holidays turning up in different weeks, however, such comparisons at times are worse than useless. In the week

ending November 21, we may find, the railroads loaded 6 per cent more traffic than a year ago. But last year the week included the Thanksgiving holiday, whereas this year it did not. Were loadings really 6 per cent higher? Of course not, but there is no way of measuring with accuracy how much larger they really were. If we make the comparison with the pre-holiday or the post-holiday week last year, other seasonal factors enter in to upset the validity of any conclusions we might draw.

When some states celebrated one Thanksgiving and other states another "Franksgiving," as happened in 1939, 1940, and 1941, confusion became worse confounded.* All one could do then would be to present the statistics, point out that they were not comparable with a year ago, and let it go at that. Businessmen trying to interpret current statistics, and guide their operations intelligently by their light, are left hopelessly in the dark under these circumstances.

Car-loadings are only one group of statistics whose interpretation is thus made extremely difficult or impossible at times by holidays that wander through the calendar from year to year. Production data from various industries, wholesale and retail trade statistics and a host of other business figures are similarly affected.

The Rearrangement of Holidays

Journalists, businessmen and educators would welcome a rearrangement of holidays in connection with the inauguration of the ingeniously simple, uniform 12-month World Calendar sponsored by The World Calendar Association. New Year's Day is anchored under this calendar, as a matter of course, on Sunday, January 1. Lincoln's Birthday, Armistice Day and Christmas, as well as the new Year-End Day, fall on week-ends. If the proposal to move Washington's Birthday, Independence Day, Election Day and Thanksgiving Day to Mondays were adopted, very many problems produced by present-day mid-week holidays would be eliminated automatically.

The mid-week holiday complicates greatly the operation of newspapers. Business concerns find that such a holiday inevitably disrupts work both before and after the holiday itself. The same applies to schools, and in addition such holidays make it very difficult to plan a semester's work where holidays fall on different days from year to year. A course scheduled to meet on Thursdays, for example, in some years may have three or four holidays and in others but one. Yet the same amount of instruction is required theoretically and the same ground must be covered in both.

Adoption of The World Calendar, along with a shift of as many holidays as possible to Saturdays or Mondays, would be a boon not only to

*Recognizing this confusion, Congress fortunately clarified the situation by making Thanksgiving a legal holiday and placing it on the fourth Thursday of November.

newspapers, businessmen and educational institutions, but also to their employees and students. They would know in advance when holidays would fall. Above all, they would enjoy a larger number of extended week-ends, instead of mid-week days off which give altogether inadequate opportunity for short vacations and recreation.

When Calendar Reform?

It has long been recognized that calendar reform is highly desirable. Should it be attempted now, in the midst of a war for survival, or should it be postponed to the indefinite future?

A strong case can be made for immediate action. True, such changes may create some immediate problems of a minor character, for plants and agencies that have based their plans upon the Gregorian calendar. Against such problems must be balanced, however, the facilitation of industrial operations that would come from a uniform calendar in which every half-year, every quarter, every month and even individual weeks, days and dates, would be stabilized and coordinated.

Daylight saving was ushered in as a practical reform by the first World War. If it is found that the immediate adoption of The World Calendar would add to industrial and business efficiency, this reform should be put into practice forthwith, so that the benefits can be realized to the full at a time when the nation is engaged in war to the death with the most powerful and ruthless adversaries it has ever faced.

OBITUARY NOTES

DANIEL WILLARD, for three decades President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, died in Baltimore, on July 6, at the age of 81. In 1935 when he became interested in calendar reform, he said: "Our present calendar has many objectionable features which might be corrected. I am in favor of calendar reform."

Other deaths among the membership of The World Calendar Association include: *John M. Laird*, Executive, Hartford, Conn.; *B. A. Bourgeois*, Treasurer, Canadian National Railways, Moncton, N. B.; *Dr. J. N. Baker*, State Health Officer, Montgomery, Ala.; *Mrs. Alice M. David*, Oklahoma City; *The Rev. J. Santillana, S.J.*, Colegio del Sagrado Corazon, Montevideo, Uruguay; *Salvador Correas Perez*, Camagüey, Cuba; *The Rev. Emery L. Bradford*, Boxford, Mass.; *The Rev. Carl Shoemaker*, Philadelphia.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CALENDAR REFORM

By ESSY KEY-RASMUSSEN

Formerly in charge of Calendar Reform at the League Secretariat

PART III

THE first decade of the League of Nations' existence, the 1920's, had been a period of expansion and enthusiasm, of numerous initiatives and of—now almost forgotten—successes, political as well as technical. That decade was characterized by relative political calm and world prosperity which contributed to enhance the prestige of the League and made the national governments of the States Members favorably inclined toward devoting energy and money to the working out, through League bodies, of international solutions of a series of technical problems in the realm of economics, health, communications, etc. The Calendar Reform was one of these problems.

But in 1929-30 the world economic and financial crisis set in, and the political horizon began to darken and continued steadily and increasingly to do so. As the League's efforts to stem the tide were not successful—because of lack of governmental backing—the prestige of the Geneva institution gradually declined. The government delegates, pressed for economy by their domestic parliaments and realizing that the League was not as effective an instrument for settling political conflicts as they had assumed, made repeated demands for reductions in the League budget. A curtailment of League activities was the inevitable result of the budgetary shrinkage and a general slow-down took place in Geneva. It is against this background of restrictions and reductions that all subsequent efforts to realize a reform of the calendar should be seen and judged.

It will then appear all the more remarkable that its supporters succeeded in bringing a definite proposal to put into force a perpetual 12-month calendar before the Council of the League of Nations in 1937.

During the period 1923-31 the advocates of the 13-month plan had been in the foreground, because of their earlier start and of the considerable material resources at their disposal. Subsequently the tables were turned, and it was the 12-month, equal-quarter plan versus the Gregorian calendar that led the field during the latest stage of the League's deliberations on the subject.

George Eastman died in 1932, and although he had donated funds to the University of Rochester, New York, some of which were allocated to the continuation of the work for the promotion of the 13-month plan,

the campaign organized by the International Fixed Calendar League lost considerably in impetus and momentum after the death of its chief supporter. During the last phase of the calendar discussions at Geneva it had practically ceased.

The World Calendar Association on the other hand maintained and developed its activities and its President made new contacts and gained fresh support, especially among the Latin-American nations. In 1934, Miss Achelis visited eleven European countries in ten weeks and flew across the Ægean from Athens to Constantinople. Among the numerous persons she contacted in the Old World were influential civil and religious leaders. While in London, previous to the international conference in 1931, she had met Mahatma Gandhi who in a signed statement, declared that he approved a perpetual calendar on a 12-month basis, pointing out that as most Indian calendars were so arranged, it would be easier of acceptance in his country.

The question of procedure was one of the obstacles to be overcome. The Fourth General Conference had given the Committee for Communications and Transit the somewhat vague mandate to "follow the efforts which would doubtless continue to be made for the purpose of enlightening opinion as to the advantages and disadvantages of a reform"; a mandate which did not necessarily imply any other action than the collection of information.

As regards Easter, the Declaration whereby the Fourth General Conference had recommended the stabilization of the movable feasts had been communicated to the religious authorities concerned and had been favorably received by the Protestant and Orthodox Churches, provided a general consent of all Christian communions could be reached. The Vatican, however, declared that it was unable to agree to the stabilization, unless it had been approved by an Oecumenical Council. The replies received from the Churches were published and communicated to the Governments in 1934. The League Secretariat endeavored to ascertain when the next Oecumenical Council would meet, and received the answer that the sessions were not periodical, and that the date of the forthcoming meeting had not even been discussed so far. The hope of arriving at a stabilization of the popular Easter holiday, therefore, appeared remote.

A Fresh Initiative

With regard to the adoption of a perpetual calendar, there was one important group which had always shown a particular interest in the reform—Labor—and significantly enough it was in the New World that a fresh initiative was again taken. At a Labor Conference of the American States Members of the International Labor Organization which met at Santiago, Chile—a country where The World Calendar movement had

gained strong support—in January 1936, a resolution proposed by the Chilean delegate and seconded by the representatives of ten other American states, i.e., the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay, was adopted. The resolution underlined the interest that the reform of the calendar presents for the workers "because of its relation to the problems of the improvement of working conditions and industrial statistics, stabilization of employment and regularization of holidays." The Conference recommended the approval of the perpetual 12-month, equal-quarter plan. It also asked the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization in Geneva to send copies of its resolutions to the Secretary General of the League and to all American States. Subsequently the International Labor Conference itself resolved—on the proposal of the Chilean delegation—to ask the Council of the League to "recommend the Committee on Communications and Transit to continue to study the whole of this question very closely. . . ."

Action by League Council

At its January session in 1937, where the League Council examined the request made by the International Labor Conference, the Chilean representative on the Council communicated to it a draft international Convention whereby the contracting States would agree to the adoption of the "perpetual calendar of 12 months and equal quarters, known as The World Calendar."

On the advice of its rapporteur, the future Ambassador to the United States, Mr. Maxim Litvinoff, the Council decided to refer the draft Convention, along with the request of the Labor Conference, to the Communications and Transit Committee which was to make an inquiry among governments and report to the Council. At the meeting, the Chilean representative, H. E. Don Agustin Edwards, Ambassador to Great Britain, made a long statement motivating his country's proposal and explaining among other things, that the nearest convenient date for putting the calendar into operation would be January 1, 1939, since that date fell on a Sunday and The World Calendar year begins with the first day of the week. The transition would thus be simplified.

The Transit Organization set to work without delay. The text of the draft Convention was sent to all governments in March, 1937, together with a letter asking them to send in their observations regarding the proposal, if possible before August 1, 1937.

The time limit was short, and when the Communications and Transit Committee met, in the beginning of September 1937, only 32 governments out of the 69 approached had forwarded their observations. The replies received indicated that only five states were opposed, ten accepted

the reform in principle, six had no observations to make, four considered that the adoption of the proposal would be premature and seven stated that they were not ready to reply. After the Committee's meeting, 13 additional replies were received which brought the total to 45 replies:—six states opposed, fourteen accepted, nine had no observations, seven considered the proposal premature, and nine were not ready to reply.

Attitude of Governments

An analysis of these governmental statements reveals several points of interest: In the first place there was not a single vote cast in favor of the 13-month plan which on previous occasions, up to and including the General Conference in 1931, had a certain support; secondly, six of the fourteen countries in favor of the proposal were Latin-American Republics (The United States' answer being non-committal); thirdly, a certain influence running counter to the adoption of a reformed calendar had been exercised by the Vatican. The latter had addressed notes to the governments of certain countries expressing the opinion that the stabilization of movable feasts must form an integral part of the reform of the calendar, and that the former should be subject to the approval of an Oecumenical Council.

The interlocking of the two problems was an additional reservation made by the Holy See which had gradually increased its conditions for the approval of a reform since 1924. The intervention of the Vatican undoubtedly accounted for the fact that several replies indicated that it was too early to contemplate a change, or that the Stabilization of Easter —to which no reference was made in the draft Convention—ought to precede the general reform. There was no technical reason, as had been pointed out by the Committee of Enquiry in its report of 1925, why either reform could not be carried out independently of the other.

As it was generally recognized to be undesirable to put a new calendar into effect, unless a large majority of nations declared their willingness to introduce it simultaneously,* the Communications and Transit Committee could not, considering the tenor of the aforementioned replies, take upon itself to recommend the convocation of a diplomatic Conference on Calendar Reform.

Opinion of Communications and Transit Committee

The Committee, therefore, expressed the opinion that "for the moment it is not opportune to contemplate the convocation of a Calendar Reform Conference which, in present circumstances, would not appear to have any prospect of achieving its object." In the

* Of interest is the historical fact that the Gregorian reform was adopted in the first place only by the Roman Catholic countries; it did not receive simultaneous approval among all nations.

considerations preceding its conclusion, the Committee spoke of "the incontestable advantages from the social and economic point of view, presented alike by the simplification of the Gregorian calendar and the stabilization of movable feasts." The Committee further paid tribute to the Chilean proposal (i.e., The World Calendar) by stating that it was "not the least interesting" of those which had been brought to its notice. (This indirect qualifier, typical of League phraseology, in reality meant "the most interesting" proposal.) The Communications and Transit Committee finally referred to the attitude of the Holy See as an obstacle to the realization of the Chilean plan, having been informed by some of its members of the Vatican intervention with certain governments for the purpose of preventing them from committing themselves in favor of a reform.

It appears from its records that the Committee did not consider the inconclusive attitude which it had felt bound to adopt, nor the stand taken by the Vatican, as final. It expressed the hope that the national committees would continue to collate the necessary material which would enable it to make useful suggestions at a later date.

The League Council in its turn, following the suggestions of the Communications and Transit Committee, refrained from convening a Conference and withdrew the item from its agenda. It stated, however, that it could "take up the question again if circumstances should, at a later date, be more favorable."

As we know, circumstances did not grow more propitious during the two years which separated that Council session from the outbreak of World War II. There have, therefore, not been any further developments of the League's work in this field.

Recapitulation

Thus 14 years of study, negotiation and deliberation on the part of the League of Nations' Communications and Transit Organization regarding the "expediency of fixing movable feasts and of simplifying the Gregorian Calendar" had come to an end—or in any case to a standstill. The outcome may appear rather modest. But to those who, like the writer, closely followed the history of the question through its different stages and who know the "inside story," as well as the outside obstacles, the headway made is quite astonishing. It must be remembered that the forces working against any proposed action in the matter were powerful; the strongest being the apathy, conservatism and lack of imagination of the general public and of most government officials, including League delegates, experts and members of the Secretariat. Moreover, the latter, who were disappointed by the lack of success and loss of prestige of the Geneva institution during the second decade, considered that a reform of the calen-

dar by the League would attract attention to other failures. (People would say: "The League has shown itself incapable of preventing aggression and war—its biggest success is the reform of the calendar.") This argument is open to question. It might be said with equal justice that a League success with regard to calendar reform might have led to further successes.

There was also strong opposition on the part of such different religious quarters as the Vatican on one side and Orthodox Jewry on the other. But whereas the Orthodox Jewish attitude was absolute and unconditional, the Vatican repeatedly underlined that it would not oppose a reform demanded "by the common good." It had not, so far, apparently been convinced that such a demand really existed.

It is worthy of recalling that during the pontificate of Pope Pius X the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce received, in 1912, the following statement: "The Holy See declared that it made no objection but invited the civil powers to enter into an accord on the reform of the civil calendar, after which it would willingly grant its collaboration in so far as the matter affected religious feasts." Here was a wise and statesmanlike understanding of the entire question, namely, that reform of the civil calendar and stabilization of religious feasts are separate subjects.

But in spite of all this, the calendar reform movement continued to progress. Who then were the allies of its promoters? They were to be found among people in all walks of life, among all classes, professional groups and religious faiths. If certain categories should be singled out, it may be said that the idea of the perpetual calendar appealed to many scientists, scholars and ecclesiastics; it also appealed, presumably for different reasons, to industry, business and labor.

It was likewise noted from the outset that the interest for a reform was much stronger in the New World than in the Old where the force of tradition is more powerful. It is significant that both the International Fixed Calendar League and The World Calendar Association were born and sustained in the United States of America. It is also worth noticing that the Latin-American countries became the staunchest supporters of the reform, although they are all Catholic and the Vatican had taken a rather negative stand.

As regards the procedure followed by the League in dealing with the problem, it has already been said that, in the writer's opinion, it was not justified to subordinate the entire question of calendar reform to the approval of the Christian Churches which had, themselves, declared that there were no dogmatic obstacles in its way; moreover, a clear separation had been made by the Vatican in 1912 between the reform of the calendar and the stabilization of religious feasts. Further it was not practical to leave the question of whether the calendar should have 12 or 13 months und-

cided, as was done by the League Committee of Enquiry in 1925. On the other hand it cannot be denied that the struggle between the advocates of the two main plans enlivened the discussion and focused the interest of press and public on the different angles of the problem.

Curiously enough the calendar question—although of secondary importance compared to many other issues in which the League was engaged during the two decades between the two World Wars—evoked more continuous interest on the part of press and public than almost any other. It was the only example, to our knowledge, of the establishment of two forceful international organizations—the International Fixed Calendar League and The World Calendar Association—for the sole purpose of promoting a question under consideration by the League of Nations. The relative slowness of the progress made was due, as has already been pointed out, partly to the somewhat abstruse character of the problem itself and partly to the political and economic situation of the world in the 1930's referred to in the beginning of this article—which was unfavorable to interstate action for the solution of technical problems.

Present Prospect

What are the prospects for introducing a new civil perpetual calendar?

In the gigantic struggle now going on radical changes are being introduced into many fields and the need for rationalization and unity are the maxims of today. The atmosphere is thus favorable to reforms such as that of a revised Gregorian calendar—which is essentially rational, bringing greater unity and order into our time-measurement.

The World Calendar Association, which has steadily gained in prestige and support since its foundation, *advocates the only calendar plan with which to reckon.* If The World Calendar is put into effect—which in widespread opinion it stands a good chance of being—it will be largely due to the perseverance, faith, tact and skill of an outstanding American woman whose name is Elisabeth Achelis.

HISTORICAL CONFUSION

By Adeudato J. Agbayani, Editor and Publisher, *Ilocos Times*, Manila, Philippine Islands

THE use of the New Style (Gregorian calendar) and the Old Style (Julian calendar) of reckoning time caused unnecessary confusion and misunderstanding in fixing historical dates. The average student of world history may still remember the historical Battle of Blenheim between England and France some two centuries ago. The English Army recorded that bloody event as having occurred on August 2, 1704, but the French soldiers, using another system of reckoning dates on time, insisted that the battle in question was fought on August 13, 1704. Well, it was the result of the war that counted far more than the date. In this connection it is interesting to recall the observation of Voltaire that "the Roman generals always triumphed, but they never knew on what day they triumphed."

CONTRIBUTION TO A NEW WORLD

By James L. C. Ford

Department of Journalism, University of California

"A NEW Calendar for a New World."

And right now this phrase which The World Calendar Association uses to describe the new civil calendar is particularly fitting and of greater significance than ever before.

In these troublous days of war with its suffering and grief and privation throughout the world there is no one who does not recognize the need for a new and better world. For months, even before the last gust of the war-wind spread the conflagration throughout the world and finally to our own shores, thoughtful people were considering the problem of world reconstruction and the building of a world of peace after this war.

Adoption of The World Calendar would be a real and potent force in the establishment of such a world. This uniform calendar would help to bring together a world which has been torn asunder by greed, strife, and misunderstanding. All peoples of the world—of all races, nationalities, and creeds—would share the same calendar after having worked together to secure its adoption. It could prove a vital factor in healing wounds and bringing about understanding. This civil calendar is based on mutual agreement—the essence of peace. It would belong to all people.

This idea was well expressed by Elisabeth Achelis, President of The World Calendar Association, in a recent issue of the *Journal of Calendar Reform*. She writes:

> I like to think of The World Calendar as a bridge of friendship over which peoples cross to converse with one another in the same orderly and reliable time-language: a bridge, spanning the chasm of confusion and enmity, by which they may reach greater perfection and beauty.

She goes on to say:

> The moment is here and NOW to reshape the calendar so that it may be a potent aid and, perhaps, a forerunner of other changes so essential for world recovery and peace. For assuredly one of the foundation stones upon which to build a better world is to establish a better bond of Time.

We need only survey the different eras of the various calendars of the world now in use to realize that the world is in need of a "better bond of Time." Today the calendar still is reckoned on a basis of different ages, according to faiths or nationalities. The Christians begin their reckoning from the birth of Christ in the Bethlehem manger, making their year now 1942 A.D. The Moslems begin with the time of the Hegira, and their present year is 1361. The Jews start from the date of Creation so their

year is now 5703. The Egyptian calendar, on which ours is based, started in 4236 B.C. More recent events have left their mark on the calendar in Italy where a XX is added to show twenty years of the Fascist state and in Germany where a V indicates the age of Hitler's regime. By Japanese reckoning this is the year 2602, the era dating from the mythical foundation of the Japanese Empire in 660 B.C. by the Emperor Jimmu.

In China, on the other hand, after 163 B.C., a year was dated from the accession of the reigning emperor. When a new emperor ascended the throne, the years of his reign received his name. Time is recorded in terms of *Nien-hao* (year-name) and to accurately fix the time of an event in history, it is necessary to consult the *Nien-hao* in relation to the years of the emperor's reign according to our time reckoning. Also China's calendar is based on the lunar month which makes its time reckoning device out of step with that used in most of the rest of the world.*

To talk of The World Calendar in terms of world acceptance and usage is not to put any sudden or new development to the activities of The World Calendar Association. Though the Association is incorporated in New York its work has long been international in scope. Its organization includes an American advisory committee and a foreign advisory committee on which representatives of 21 different nations are included. There are 34 calendar committees and almost every nation in the world has members listed in the Association, many of whom are serving on its committees. The international phase of The World Calendar has, however, passed the stage where it need be measured in terms of interest alone, for already it has been given the approval of 14 nations. These 14 nations are: Afghanistan, Brazil, Chile, China, Esthonia, Greece, Hungary, Mexico, Norway, Panama, Peru, Spain, Turkey, and Uruguay. Eleven years ago, in 1931, only the two nations of Greece and Switzerland had approved The World Calendar.

The steady growth in popularity of The World Calendar is easy to understand. People like the way this civil calendar corrects the flagrant disadvantages of the present one without deviating from the 12-month pattern for the year, retaining the familiar structure.

The World Calendar offers advantages to people in every field of endeavor throughout the world. All the main religious groups of the world have recognized the benefits to be obtained in this calendar. It has been endorsed by the Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church, the Protestant Episcopal Church, The Universal Christian Council for Life and Work at Geneva, many rabbis, and a number of the Roman Catholic clergy. China favors this calendar, the countries of Islam faith, Turkey and Afghanistan, give it their support, while in India Gandhi favors it.

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* EDITOR'S NOTE: Officially China uses the Gregorian calendar, having accepted it in 1912.

An outstanding benefit of The World Calendar to the Christian world is that it would make possible, *but only with Church initiative and approval,* the establishment of a fixed date for Easter and would eliminate the wide variation of the observance of this important religious day from year to year.

Scientists always have been interested in a calendar as perfect as possible. Astronomers and mathematicians planned the changes that have been introduced to make each calendar more accurate than its predecessor. Now they back The World Calendar as a means of correcting the irregularities of months and arranging time-periods in a more orderly way.

Every branch of business and industry stands to benefit greatly by calendar revision. Businesses carrying on operations throughout the world will find it simpler to supervise their activities with a common calendar in use. Companies will find it easier to lay their plans when each year consists of four equal quarters. And this is of special importance in our present intense war activities.

And now when industry is mobilizing every resource in a great victory effort it is unfortunate that time cannot be efficiently and effectively drafted to do its part in the speed-up of production of war materials and munitions. The present civil calendar with its unequal quarters and its hit and miss holidays causes much needless loss of time and so slows up dangerously the manufacture of our vital war needs.

Most large plants are now running the clock around producing war equipment but they are dependent on raw materials and parts for the completion of their goods. These materials and parts usually come from smaller plants which are entirely dependent on our antiquated calendar. When they have to supply a needed part to the assembly line of a large plant in a quarter period that is shorter than average or that has several mid-week holidays, they fall behind schedule. And the finished product of the large war industry plant of necessity rolls off the assembly line behind schedule.

It is time that we adopted The World Calendar and added time itself to the many workers in our war effort.

Labor feels that it, too, will gain by the stability of a constant calendar of equal quarters with holidays always falling at the same time in succeeding years. The Labor Conference of the American States recommended approval of The World Calendar when it met in Chile in 1936. Also in 1936 the International Labor Organization meeting in Geneva felt "that the present calendar is very unsatisfactory from economic, social and religious standpoints."

Throughout the field of government the advantages of the new World Calendar will be felt. All records kept will have more meaning when they

can always represent the same length of time as with equal quarters. With increasing taxation that includes more and more of our entire population, the exact timing of taxes on definite dates would simplify, what is at best, an arduous duty though willingly accepted for patriotic reasons.

The cause of The World Calendar should be furthered NOW when governments as well as individual people are thinking and planning not only for out-and-out war efforts but also for post-war reconstruction. Everyone hopes that a sound, just peace will be made at the end of this conflict and that from the fighting and chaos will arise a world of brotherhood and cooperation. And it is impossible to picture such a world without a world-wide governing body of some kind. Surely a calendar commonly observed and used in every part of the globe would help the functioning of such a body, facilitate the carrying on of its governing duties, and cement peoples together through the common bond of time and the observance of world-wide holidays.

Everybody would be the better for the observance of the two World Holidays, one ending every year and the other coming in the middle of every leap year, since they could be dedicated to the brotherhood of man and celebrated by each sect with the freedom so essential to real peace.

The most logical time in which to put The World Calendar into effect is in the year 1945. In both the new and our calendar of today, December 30, 1944, falls on Saturday. If the following day is made an extra Saturday for the first World Holiday, we all would be ready to begin the new year with our new World Calendar on Sunday, January 1, 1945.

EPOCHS AND ERAS

By Professor William H. Barton, Jr.
Curator, Hayden Planetarium
(From *The Sky*, November, 1939)

THE GRECIAN ERA

The statement in the *Almanac* [*United States Nautical Almanac*] for 1938 is that the year 2250 of the Grecian era, or the era of Seleucidae, begins in the present-day usage of the Syrians on September 1, 1938, or on October 1, 1938 Julian Calendar, according to different sects; but in the ancient usage of Damascus and Arabia Petraea the year began with the vernal equinox.

The era dates from the reign of Seleucus Nicanor in 311 B.C. The calendar is simply a Julian year with Syrian names substituted for the months. The Syrian Greeks began the year about the commencement of September. The other Syrians began it in October, while the Jews who used this era began their civil year with the autumnal equinox. It is believed by some that the Jews did not discontinue the use of this era for the one they use at present until about 400 years ago.

To change the date in our present era to the era of Seleucidae add 312. Thus, 1938 plus 312 gives 2250 as the year of that era.

TAKING TIME BY THE FORELOCK

By FRANK HOPE-JONES

M.I.E.E., F. R. A. S.

Reprinted from the *Horological Journal*, June, 1942

The following interesting letter was received recently by The World Calendar Association from Dr. Hope-Jones, of Esher, Surrey, England:

"Thanks to my friend Dr. Spencer-Jones, the Astronomer Royal, I have seen your pamphlet with green cover and note that 'additional copies can be had on request.'

"I don't know how many to ask for but I hope you can spare at least a dozen.

"I am keenly enthusiastic for your scheme and I am able to offer considerable influence in its adoption.

"I was William Willet's 'right hand' in his Daylight Saving campaign and used to speak at his meetings and write it up in the Press.

"I originated the six dot seconds Radio Time Signals and travelled round the world just before the war to coordinate them in H. M. Dominions over the seas.

"Captain J. F. Hellweg of the U. S. Naval Observatory who is on your Advisory Committee is an old friend of mine and he will probably tell you that I can give you good service on this side of the Atlantic."

HAVE you ever considered what a jumble our calendar is, how clumsily its days of the week are arranged to fit into a year, and why the months are of different lengths?

We should think it a nuisance if we had not become so used to it. We know it to be old; custom has endowed it with an odor of sanctity. It has certainly a respectable ancestry since it was devised for Julius Caesar and improved by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582. The first Julian year was 46 B.C.*

But should this antiquity protect it from criticism? I think not. Is it not remarkable that a mere man, however brilliant, should have succeeded in imposing anything, however good, upon the human race for 2,000 years? It is not to be wondered at if a scheme devised in those leisurely days should be criticized and found capable of improvement in this industrial age. So let us play some tricks with it and see what minimum of alterations will give us the maximum of simplification.

Most of the difficulties arise from the fact that the figure seven, representing the number of days in the week, does not go without remainder into the figure 365, representing the number of days in most years. Fifty-two times seven is 364, not 365.

We divide the 52 weeks into 12 so-called months but in a most illogical and happy-go-lucky way, and no wonder, since August was given 31 days for no better reason than to gratify the vanity of Augustus who demanded

* EDITOR'S NOTE: This year came to be known as the "Year of Confusion" preceding the first real Julian year 45 B.C.

as many days in his month as Julius had in July. The day was stolen from February,* who had no defender, hence the rhyme:

Thirty days hath September,
April, June and November,
All the rest have thirty-one
Excepting February alone.

One result of this is that we have 90 days in the first quarter, 91 in the second and 92 in the third and fourth.

What a boon it would be to those engaged in the compilation and comparison of statistics, if every quarter contained the same number of days and weeks and always ended on a Saturday night!

Because of that remainder of one in the division of 365 by seven, there is a progression of one weekday in each ordinary year; thus if January 1 falls on a Sunday in one year, it will fall on Monday in the next. The intervals between these years would be seven but that the leap years 1928, 1932, and 1936 interfere with them.

If we could get rid of that extra day and that extra leap-year day, we could begin each year on a Sunday and equalize the quarters. Why not? All we have to do is to add two days to February permanently and part with the 31sts of March, August and December. This will give us 91 days in each quarter and make a net reduction of one day in the year.

What shall we do with this 365th day? We have driven it into its proper place at the end of the year and it is suggested that we use it as a bank holiday. The popular world would call it the "Year-End" holiday, but the legal and business world would keep its old title of December 31.

What a day of days for a holiday! To relax, care-free with the happy sense of a year's work done. I experienced a similar feeling when crossing the date-line in the Pacific, saying to myself "no one can call me to account for my use of this day—it doesn't exist." So we will celebrate the end of the year by letting the earth spin another revolution without notching it up against us and leaving us free to enjoy a real Saturnalia.

Thus we shall end the year with an eight-day week. (December 24-31, inclusive) embracing the whole of our festal season—Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve.

If our pastors and masters condemn us for frivolity, the balance can be redressed by dropping the celebration of Boxing Day which never of recent times had any particular claim to such distinction.

Our Easter and Whitsuntide go sliding up and down the year over a range of 35 days and if they continue to carry the Bank holidays with them they should be fixed. They are purely religious anniversaries and it should be left to the Ecclesiastical Authorities to settle them.

The early Churches invariably based their calculations on "the moon,

* EDITOR'S NOTE: This popular myth has little basis in historical fact. See *Journal of Calendar Reform*, Vol. IX, pp. 10-13.

the inconstant moon," which has proved a fatal bar to conformity with any calendar based upon the motion of the earth relatively to the sun. Efforts to fix Easter have raised fierce controversies since the dawn of Christendom but the layman is not concerned with them.

So long as our four holidays are reasonably spaced, we shall be content. The first Monday in August will no doubt be retained (it will always fall on the 6th) and I have proposed December 31 for Boxing Day.

And what about leap year?

I suggest that in every fourth year (less three years out of every 400) we repeat the merry experience of December 31 and celebrate leap year's day by an extra holiday when there is plenty of mistletoe about and when our maidens are much more likely to exercise their privilege than in February, which has nothing particular to recommend it. True, the housewives will need more pre-vision and provision for a two-day festival, but it will always be followed by a Sunday in which to sober up.

But though a Civil holiday, legally, it is still a day. It represents a rotation of the earth on its axis and it must have a name. "The 32d of December" may sound ridiculous at first, but no more absurd than the 29th of February when it was first introduced by Pope Gregory XIII.

The year 1945 could begin on a Sunday. Shall we be ready to inaugurate the new calendar then? Mr. Greenwood, in reply to a question in the House, has already said he is prepared to investigate a reform on these lines, but it seems to be too much to hope that the cumbersome machinery of Parliament can be set in motion in time. Publishers of Almanacs and Diaries would require reasonable notice as these are printed in advance.

But if the scheme is pushed forward the year 1945 and all future years will begin on a Sunday and end with a Saturday holiday and we shall enjoy a large measure of order instead of the present muddle.

The essentials can be expressed very briefly: Begin each year on a Sunday. Give February a day from March and a day from August. Put the 365th day in its proper place (December 31) and use it as a holiday. Let leap-year day follow it.

The proposal is so simple and its advantages so great that it has probably been made by others with variations in detail. In the history of inventions it is often remarked that an idea originates in many minds almost simultaneously when the world is ripe for it. But some will say that the world has something more important in hand at the moment!

AUTHOR'S NOTE—Since writing the above, at Easter, I have met with the expected anticipation. There is a Calendar Association in New York advocating an almost identical scheme, but they put the extra leap-year day at the end of June, which I admit is better, and they make May give a day to April for the sake of symmetrical quarters so that each may begin with a month of 31 days followed by two of 30 days.

If world-wide support can be secured, they propose to inaugurate the change at the end of 1944 by making its December 31 an extra Saturday instead of a Sunday, thus inserting a Year-End holiday as a send-off for the new Calendar on the following Sunday, January 1, 1945.

May, 1942. F. Hope-Jones.

WAR AND POST-WAR PLANNING

By CHARLES C. SUTTER

Director of The World Calendar Association

ALL the world looks forward to the day when peace will return. In the interim it is imperative that each nation employ its energies and abilities in the planning and rebuilding of a new and better world, a society in which man can develop to his fullest. With the elimination of other impediments and obstructions that have so far prevented this full development, the elimination of the inadequate Gregorian calendar and the adoption of the new World Calendar is constructive. Here, as the world moves toward a new conception of peace, is a cause that can be taken in world-stride.

It is gratifying that men and women and organizations, who are thinking of the problems which reconstruction presents, already know about The World Calendar and, officially or unofficially, have stated approval of it as a sensible means to a greatly desired end.

From Dr. Lewis Mumford, author, lecturer, and professor of Stanford University's School of Humanities, comes this expression:

"I have long known of The World Calendar proposal; and I look upon it as so rational and so useful as to admit of no opposition. The only arguments against it are inertia, superstition, and temporary inconvenience. . . ."

In Washington stands the white marble home of the Pan American Union, an organization that for more than fifty years has promoted peace and commerce and friendship among the republics on the American continent.

From the Union's director general, Dr. L. S. Rowe, we learn, that:

"I believe that you are well advised to bring this idea"—The World Calendar—"forward now, and hope that it will meet with careful consideration."

Washington is the home, also, of the National Research Council, a cooperative organization of American scientists and businessmen interested in engineering and industry. Through the years since the Civil War, the Council's parent body, the National Academy of Sciences, has served as an adviser to the Government on a wide variety of subjects.

From the Council's chairman, Dr. Ross G. Harrison, come these words:

"Personally, I am strongly in favor of the adoption of The World Calendar. Apparently the membership of the National Academy of Sciences, which is the parent organization of the National Research Council, is of the same opinion."

A similar expression comes from an executive of the Institute of International Education, an organization that, founded immediately after World War I, has developed rapidly during World War II.

Outlining its program and purposes, the Institute explains that it "was originally planned as a peacetime organization to help prevent wars through the stimulation of international understanding," and that it "has recently become a wartime agency as well, dedicated to constructive progress toward world peace by promoting cultural appreciation among all peoples."

From the Institute's assistant director, Edgar J. Fisher, comes this expression:

"Personally, I believe that the new calendar for a new world would be of great benefit."

S. Shepard Jones, director of the World Peace Foundation, which focuses its activities "upon the task of making facts of international relations available in clear and undistorted form," comments:

"My general impression is favorable to your proposal."

Indicative of the wide variety of organizations and agencies that look with interest upon The World Calendar is an opinion from Gordon R. Clapp, general manager of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Regional, of course, in its physical scope, the TVA, now mainly a wartime agency, looks upon post-war reconstruction as a problem, at least partially, of economic adjustment.

Writes Mr. Clapp:

"Thank you for sending me a copy of the pamphlet, 'The World Calendar, A New Calendar for a New World.' The case for calendar revision is well stated, and is, I am sure, worthy of serious consideration along with other plans for the post-war world."

From Pitman B. Potter, director of the Geneva Research Center of the Brookings Institution, comes this:

"I personally agree entirely with the aims of your Association."

The former dean of the law school at the University of Missouri, Dr. William E. Masterson, now professor of law at Temple University and, through membership in various committees of state and national law associations, a prominent figure in international law, declares:

"I heartily endorse the movement for a new world calendar; and I trust that your efforts will be successful."

Mr. N. B. Foot, general secretary, The New Commonwealth, a Society for the promotion of International Law and Order, writes from London:

"My Executive Committee have, of course, known for some time past of the work which is carried on by your Association. Generally speaking, I imagine that most of our members would be in favor of your proposals. . . ."

For practical reasons, of course, any movement toward the international adoption of The World Calendar, as an approach toward the establishment of a new world order and as a means of facilitating that establishment, may well start with our own Nation and the other nations of North, Central and South America. This practical consideration of post-war method, Secretary Hull, in his broadcast on July 23, clearly and explicitly recognized.

"To make full use of our opportunity," the Secretary said, "we must be resolved not alone to proclaim the blessings and benefits which we all alike desire for humanity, but to find the mechanisms by which they may be most fully and most speedily attained and be most effectively safeguarded.

"The manifold tasks that lie ahead will not be accomplished over night. There will be need for plans, developed with careful consideration and carried forward boldly and vigorously. The vision, the resolution, and the skill with which the conditions of peace will be established and developed after the war will be as much a measure of man's capacity for freedom and progress as the fervor and the determination which men show in winning victory."

Of the need for well-laid plans, boldly and vigorously carried forward, so well set forth by Secretary Hull and so clearly stated and approved by the foregoing opinions, we of The World Calendar Association offer a plan that is available and has already received the approval of 14 nations; one that would indeed proclaim a new world era in the realm of time.

On the practical side, The World Calendar's adoption would undoubtedly save valuable time and energy that in the present and future might be better used for other tasks that confront us. Thus war and post-war planning should wisely consider the adoption of this new and better civil calendar, the revised 12-months of equal quarters.

CHARLES C. SUTTER

Mr. Charles C. Sutter, Director of The World Calendar Association, has been called to the service of his country as First Lieutenant in the Army Air Forces. For nine years he has ably served The World Calendar Association and has edited the *Journal of Calendar Reform*. The Association and all its members and friends take this opportunity of expressing their warmest regards and good wishes. Although he will be greatly missed, we willingly forego his valuable service and are proud to know that he is responding to our country's need.

THE LOST MONTHS OF 1751

By THOMAS WAYLING

Parliamentary Press Gallery, Ottawa, Canada

THE present New Year's Day has been the beginning of the New Year for so long that it is curious to realize there was a time when New Year's Day was not January 1 but varied in different countries. In England, up to 1752 it was Lady Day, March 25.

In England, therefore, leases were commenced and determined by Lady Day and rents became due on Lady Day and Michaelmas Day.

The adoption of the Gregorian calendar in England in 1752 was delayed because England was Protestant and the Gregorian calendar originated with the Papal authorities. Pope Gregory XIII decreed the exact date of the calendar reform at October 5, 1582, which day was to be October 15. In France the change was adopted on the 10th of December, 1582, which was called December 20. In the Catholic States of Germany it was adopted in 1583. The Protestant German States and Denmark resisted the reform until 1700; Sweden followed later. In Poland the new calendar was adopted in 1582 after considerable opposition including serious rioting in Riga.

In England the opposition was not overcome until 1752 when September 3 was declared to be September 14. The populace was exasperated at the loss of 11 days and pursued members of the Government (including Lord Chesterfield) with cries and imprecations, demanding the 11 days be given back.

One stout old Christian, scandalized at the change which moved Good Friday to a new day, continued with his wife to observe the old Good Friday. They solemnly dressed for Church and paraded to the Church door, knocking and demanding admission. The door being kept closed, they returned home and there read the Church Service appointed for Good Friday.

The beginning of 1752 was changed from March 25 to the 1st of January immediately preceding it, thus depriving the year 1751 of the months of January, February and 24 days of March, which had been the last three months of 1751. Under the old system the 24th and 25th of March, 1751, were called March 24, 1750, and March 25, 1751. Thus 24 days of March belonged to 1750 and seven days to 1751.

The superstitious populace of that period believed that at the moment of midnight when Christmas Day began, the cattle always fell on their knees in the stalls. Under the new calendar the people watched the cattle and claimed they still fell on their knees at midnight ushering in the old Christmas Day. There were those who said England's Protestant cattle were protesting against the new Popish law.

Catholic authorities had reported otherwise. Riccioli, the great astronomer, declared that the blood of St. Januarius which previously used to liquefy punctually on September 19, immediately changed the day of its miraculous liquefaction to September 19 of the new calendar. The miracle had gone back ten days in obedience to the Papal Bull. Riccioli also asserted that a certain supernatural twig, which put forth miraculous buds on Christmas Day, was found to bud on the new Christmas Day.

When England changed her New Year's Day from March 25 to January 1, it caused some confusion in dating legal documents, so that documents and printed works for some years after 1753 bore both the new and the old dates. For instance, June 19, 1753, Old Style, became June 30, 1753, and was written $\frac{19}{30}$ June 1753. Where the month was also changed this also was noted; $\frac{\text{30th June}}{\text{11th July}}$ 1753. Sometimes the year changed as well as the month, and 23d February, 1753, Old Style, became 6th March, 1754, and was written $\frac{\text{23 Feb. 1753}}{\text{6th March 1754.}}$

Opponents of the new World Calendar cry confusion, but there would be no such confusion as followed the Gregorian Reform, particularly as the ill-informed populace in England at the time of 1752 could not understand where the lost months had gone to, nor the missing 11 days.

The change is so slight in the new reform that people will hardly be aware of it: February receives two new days, February 29 and 30. March gives its 31st day to April; whereas May and August lose their 31st day. So obviously it is simple, easy and practical.

MORE OBITUARY NOTES

THE REVEREND THEODORE E. R. PHILLIPS, former President of the International Astronomical Union, died in Epsom, England, on May 13 at the age of 74.

Dr. Phillips was an internationally known astronomer, particularly for his studies of planets, double stars and variable stars. An outstanding student on the calendar, he had been a member of The World Calendar Association since September, 1935.

Several years ago the *Journal of Calendar Reform* published an extract from *Splendour of the Heavens*, in which he said: "A far more serious defect in our existing calendar is the inequality in the division of the year into months, quarters and half-years. The inconvenience is felt in commercial and business affairs such as the arrangement of accounts and the calculation of salaries, interest, pensions, rent and so forth."

ALDEN C. NOBLE, Chairman of the Board of the Merchants Fire Assurance Corporation of New York, died on June 13 at the age of 62. Mr. Noble became a member of The World Calendar Association in September, 1935, and long had been an advocate of The World Calendar.

An example of his interest in The World Calendar was indicated several years ago when he gave a detailed interview on the subject to the Editor of the Scarsdale *Weekly Inquirer*. At the time of the interview he said: "The reason I gave the interview to our local paper was that the editor seemed to be interested in the matter and to know virtually nothing about it, and I thought perhaps the same condition of ignorance applied to the readers of the *Inquirer*. I suppose that every little helps."

CURRENT PRESS COMMENT

Sensible and Practical

St. Louis (Mo.) St. Louisan

Not only is The World Calendar sensible from a practical point of view, but it offers an extra day of rest, meditation, thanksgiving or penitence, as the case may be. Why the nations of the world should hesitate to adopt so simple and useful a device is one of those inscrutable problems in human nature that apparently is beyond the wit of man.

War No Detriment

Wooster (O.) Daily Record

Everybody who has become interested in the campaign to reform the present calendar must admire the persistent efforts that are made by the leaders of the movement, which has received much support in the past few years. Even the war has not put an end to the efforts.

Persistent Application

Rochester (N. Y.) Democrat-Chronicle

There are obvious advantages in The World Calendar which already have appealed strongly to business men, church people and all who wish to have more uniformity in the calendar. Holidays and birthdays would always fall on the same day of the week, Easter would always be the same date. Kinks in the present calendar, which is really a hodgepodge of divergent periods and ideas, would be straightened out. The next step, as the sponsors of the plan admit, is to get world leaders, including the President of the United States, to make it official.

In Admiration

Jackson (Mich.) Citizen-Patriot

In the mass of propaganda from the nations at war (excepting only German which was recently stopped), the nations not at war, the circulars of political parties, the press agent products of all the many government agencies, and all the other mail that comes regularly to the newspaper office, appears a booklet in cheerful green from The World Calendar Association begging consideration.

This Association's cause is well known. You can't help admiring the enthusiasm of those who support the cause when there are so many causes crying for recognition and support at this time. The kind of a calendar we have now may be the kind the world we have now deserves.

More and Better Holidays

Tarrytown (N. Y.) Press

Holidays are one of our greatest national institutions. The people of this country, who spend the majority of their waking hours working in offices, stores, factories and in the fields, look forward to holidays for weeks ahead. Each year, most of us look over the new calendar and are pleased if we find a lot of holidays falling on Fridays or Mondays, and disappointed if they fall otherwise.

So year after year many of us grumble over the unfortunate set-up of the new year's calendar. But when we analyze it, there is little reason why the calendar could not be changed. The World Calendar Association, supported by well-known people in most every country, has for years been working for calendar reform—a reform in which most holidays would fall on Monday and each month-date would fall on the same weekday every year.

Plenty of Weight

Waterbury (Conn.) Democrat

The World Calendar Association is nothing if not thorough in its campaign to bring about a reform in the calendar which most people observe and follow. This group has been by far the most steadfast and certainly the most logical of any that have sponsored such changes of recent years. There have been from time to time individuals and groups anxious to bring about some sort of uniformity in the calendar, but none has presented the understandable and workable one which The World Calendar Association has evolved.

EXCERPTS AND REVIEWS

Solar and Sidereal Time

In *The Observer's Handbook for 1942*, published by The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

IN practical astronomy three different kinds of time are used, while in ordinary life we use a fourth.

1. *Apparent Time*—By apparent noon is meant the moment when the sun is on the meridian, and apparent time is measured by the distance in degrees that the sun is east or west of the meridian. Apparent time is given by the sun-dial.

2. *Mean Time*—The interval between apparent noon on two successive days is not constant, and a clock cannot be constructed to keep apparent time. For this reason *mean time* is used. The length of a mean day is the average of all the apparent days throughout the year. The *real sun* moves about the ecliptic in one year; an imaginary *mean sun* is considered as moving uniformly around the celestial equator in one year. The difference between the times that the real sun and the mean sun cross the meridian is the *equation of time.* Or, in general, *Apparent Time—Mean Time=Equation of Time.*

3. *Sidereal Time*—This is time as determined from the stars. It is sidereal noon when the Vernal Equinox or First of Aries is on the meridian. In accurate time-keeping the moment when a star is on the meridian is observed and the corresponding mean time is then computed with the assistance of the *Nautical Almanac.* When a telescope is mounted equatorially the position of a body in the sky is located by means of the sidereal time.

4. *Standard Time*—In every-day life we use still another kind of time. A moment's thought will show that in general two places will not have the same mean time; indeed, difference in longitude between two places is determined from their difference in time. But in travelling it is very inconvenient to have the time varying from station to station. For the purpose of facilitating transportation the system of *Standard Time* was introduced in 1883. Within a certain belt approximately 15° wide, all the clocks show the same time, and in passing from one belt to the next the hands of the clock are moved forward or backward one hour.

In Canada we have six standard time belts, as follows: 60th meridian or Atlantic Time, 4h. slower than Greenwich; 75th meridian or Eastern Time, 5h.; 90th meridian or Central Time, 6h.; 105th meridian or Mountain Time, 7h.; 120th meridian or Pacific Time, 8h.; and 135th meridian or Yukon Time, 9h. slower than Greenwich. [The United States has but four standard time belts, the second through the fifth listed above.]

Daylight Saving Time [*War Time* in the United States] is the standard time of the next zone eastward. It is adopted in many places between certain specified dates during the summer. As a war-time measure many places are using daylight saving time throughout the year.

War Inspires Efforts to Remake Calendar

By HARLOWE R. HOYT

In Cleveland (Ohio) *Plain Dealer*, August, 1941

THE plan advanced by The World Calendar Association to remake the present calendar and establish what is held to be a more substantial basis does not, after all, entail a tremendous shifting of the present schedule.

The year 1945 has been selected as an adoption date for two reasons. It is believed that by that time the war will have been decisively ended. With the inevitable changes in restoring countries held by the Nazi forces and in reconditioning stricken lands, no better time could be chosen to adopt a universal calendar than when the nations are in conference. The second reason given is that December 30, 1944, falls on a Saturday and the new system would start off with a bang on Sunday, January 1, 1945.

Just how this is to be effected is also

proposed. The Association urges the United States to take the lead by having the President call an international conference not later than 1943 or, if this is impractical, to submit an international proposal to other governments. It is pointed out that the idea is extremely practical since 14 nations already have signified their willingness to join in. These lands are Afghanistan, Brazil, Chile, China, Esthonia, Greece, Hungary, Mexico, Norway, Panama, Peru, Spain, Turkey and Uruguay.

Two advantages in so far as business is concerned are to be found in Christmas and New Year's Day. The former, always falling on Monday, gives a logical two-day holiday. The latter, always falling on Sunday, follows the extra Saturday, again affording a two-day holiday. Many corporations plan reports and fiscal calculations on a quarter-year basis and by this system, these dates would fall on March, June, September or December 30. That this is an advantage is evidenced in the fact that three British Chambers of Commerce—London, British and Empire—have given their approval to it as have the New York Chamber of Commerce, the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce and similar institutions.

It would simplify legal complications by dividing the "year," meaning 12 months, into equal divisions as "half-year" and "quarter-year." Court terms begin with the first day of the month and these would always be the same. And the plan takes a drastic step in suggesting that Easter become a fixed instead of a movable date. The second Sunday in April—which would be April 8—would fix the observance which now wavers between March 22 and April 25.

Finally, it is pointed out, only six changes of days or dates will be made. The six months from September 1 to February 28 continue as now. Two new days —February 29 and 30—are introduced. March 31 is pushed over into April, giving it 31 days, and May 31 and August 31 disappear. December 31 becomes part of a 48-hour day. And there you are.

Suppose

From the Weekly *Bulletin* of the Tyler Jewish Community, Tyler, Texas, May, 1942

SUPPOSE that each year were the same, not different! Suppose that one perpetual calendar replaced the changing ones on your desks and walls! The quarters would be equal in length, beginning on Sunday, ending on Saturday, and containing three months—13 weeks—91 days. Month-dates would always fall on the same weekdays and each month would have 26 weekdays—plus Sundays. Each year would begin on Sunday. Year-End Day and Leap-Year Day, the extra Saturdays, would be World Holidays on which might be celebrated world peace and a new order.

The change could be made easily at the end of 1944.

More Doggerels

By Dr. Henry Pleasants, Jr.

First month of World Calendar's quarter
Has thirty-one days to its score,
The second and third each has thirty
Just ninety-one total—no more.

A week-end holiday
In the old, old-fashioned way
Is a nuisance of the old, old-fashioned kind.
You've no time to have your fun
For Sunday's almost done
Before you've started what you have in mind.
The plan they have in view
Is the best for me and you
The extra day will never seem a crime.
And you won't break up a week
When some pleasure you would seek
For a Monday will be taken every time.

The holiday Easter is queer
In April or March may appear
With the calendar's change
It will come within range
For it falls the same Sunday each year.

FROM THE MAIL BAG

I have been following the work of The World Calendar Association for a long time, in fact ever since my friend, C. D. Morris, talked to me about it. . . . I hope we can find some way to publicize an intelligent approach to the calendar problem.—Lyman Bryson, Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc., N. Y. C.

I will always have a good word to say about The World Calendar when an opportune occasion arises.—Gen. Jefferson R. Kean, USA (Ret.), Washington, D. C.

I trust The World Calendar will be able to succeed in its mission of having a more ordered and workable calendar.—L. A. Brelvi, Editor, *Bombay Chronicle*, India.

I have been very much interested in the proposed changes in The World Calendar and have recently written to the New England Council urging them to promote the movement as an aid to industrial preparedness and as a change which would be for the best interest of the people generally from a recreational standpoint.—Colvin Farley, White Plains, N. Y.

The Retail Trade Bureau of Portland has unanimously gone on record favoring calendar reform such as proposed by your organization. We are especially interested in the perpetual 12-month equal-quarter World Calendar by reason that it will afford stabilization as to day and date of holidays, which are very important factors in retailing.

We hope we may be of further help to you in bringing this change about.—E. N. Weinbaum, Mgr., Retail Trade Bureau, Portland, Ore.

I back The World Calendar Association 100 per cent, and am proud to work in its support of the modern, efficient World Calendar, the precision of which befits our streamlined and mechanized age.—James F. Forcina, Trenton, N. J.

Have been intensely interested in The World Calendar ever since I first read about it some months ago. Will be glad to work for its accomplishment.—Mrs. John B. Guerry, Pres., Ga. Fed. Music Clubs, Atlanta.

I have been interested in this idea for a long time and want to interest my friends in it.—James Pleukharp, Los Angeles.

Have long believed in an effective improvement of our calendar. Think numerous clergymen ought to be if subject is properly presented.—The Rev. G. Mills, Secy., Ministers' Union of America.

I should like to express my admiration for The World Calendar Association on the splendid and judicious campaign it is continually waging for a fixed calendar, the adoption of which I hope may be accelerated by this terrible war.—C. A. Chant, Univ. of Toronto.

I have become very much interested and in favor of your plans for calendar reform. I intend to do all that I possibly can in this area to spread the gospel of calendar reform.—M. W. Fleck, Eastern New Mexico College, Portales.

I was indeed interested and very gratified to see your reference to my summary of a lecture before the Royal Canadian Institute. I feel very strongly about the challenge to every individual to play a part in the furthering of world consciousness and international responsibility. I think you are doing a very fine work and I take every opportunity to bring the matter of calendar reform to the notice of my students, both in astronomy classes and in general intercourse. My copy of the *Journal* is placed regularly in the reading room of the women undergraduates.—A. Vibert Douglas, Dean of Women, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada.

The establishment of such a calendar would certainly greatly simplify a lot of problems and particularly business problems in the accounting field.—Carl O. Sayward, New York City.

I surely trust that 1945 will see the inception of the "new order" in time reckoning.—N. M. Powell, Yorkville, Ohio.

To my mind this is the psychological time to press for calendar reform. With the world in a process of making a thousand other changes, the die-hards and reactionaries will not oppose calendar reform so much as in the past.—Verna Schmidt, Secretary, Bismarck, N. D.

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ARGENTINA: Comité Argentino del Calendario Mundial, Vice Admiral José Guisasola, Chairman, Ministerio de Marina, Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA: Committee on Calendar Reform of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, C. W. Allen, Secy., Solar Observatory, Canberra.

BELGIUM: Belgian National Committee on Calendar Reform, Professor M. Dehalu, President, l'Université de Liège, Liège.

BOLIVIA: Comité Boliviano del Calendario Mundial, Don Moises Santivanez, Chairman, Biblioteca Nacional, Sucre.

BRAZIL: Comité Brasileiro do Calendario Mundial, Rear Admiral Radler de Aquino, Chairman, Rua Raul Pompeia No. 133, Rio de Janeiro.

CANADA: Rational Calendar Association, Lt.-Col. J. Murray Muir, Secy., 82 Jane St., Toronto 5.

CHILE: Comité Chileno del Calendario Mundial, Prof. Alberto Cumming, Chairman, Calle Manuel Rodriguez, Santiago.

CHINA: Chinese Association for the Study of Calendar Reform, Dr. Ch'ing-Sung Yü, Director, National Institute of Astronomy, Kunming, Yunnan.

COLOMBIA: Comité Colombiano del Calendario Mundial, Dr. Eduardo Posada, Chairman, Consulado General de Honduras, Apartado 42, Bogota.

COSTA RICA: Comité Costarricense del Calendario Mundial (Igualmente de Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador y Nicaragua), Don Teodoro Picado, Chairman, San José.

CUBA: Comité Cubano del Calendario Mundial, R. P. Mariano Gutierrez Lanza, Chairman, Belén Observatory, Havana.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Comité Dominicano del Calendario Mundial, Barney N. Morgan, Chairman, Box 727, Ciudad Trujillo.

ECUADOR: Comité Ecuatoriano del Calendario Mundial, Dr. Rafael H. Elizalde, Chairman, Calle Cienfuegos 158, Santiago, Chile.

ENGLAND: Rational Calendar Association, C. David Stelling, Director, 38, Parliament Street, London.

FRANCE: Comité National pour la Reforme du Calendrier, Senateur Justin Godart, President; Paul-Louis Hervier, Secy., 5, Rue Bernoulli, Paris.

GERMANY: Deutscher Ausschuss für Kalenderreform, Dr. Grosse, Geschäftsführer, Neue Wilhelmstr. 9/11, Berlin N. W. 7.—Der Weltbund für Kalenderreform, Dr. Rudolph Blochmann, Secy., 24 Lornsenstrasse, Kiel.

GREECE: Greek National Committee on Calendar Reform, Prof. S. Plakidis, Secy., Observatory of University of Athens.

HUNGARY: Hungarian Committee for Study of Calendar Reform, Dr. Paul Vajda, Secy., 9 Eotos Utca, Budapest.

IRELAND: Committee for Calendar Reform, E. K. Eason, Secy., 80, Mid. Abbey St., Dublin.

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Bookplate for The World Calendar

Behind this symbolic bookplate is one of the grandest inspirations in all literature: the last two chapters of the Book of Revelation.

The conception of the motif, like so many ideas connected with The World Calendar, came from Elisabeth Achelis. When we had our first talk about a bookplate she remarked casually that she would like to have included in the drawing the new Jerusalem, the tree of life, the sun, and The World Calendar.

To me, who had not been thinking along such cosmic lines, the combination seemed absolutely impossible. However, having attempted the impossible before, during a full artistic life ranging from theatrical character studies to stained glass windows, I took the matter under consideration.

Although the conception was in my mind, the whole design was of slow growth and needed thought and selfless meditation.

Some time later the inspiration came to me to add to the Holy City the Archangel Michael (angel of the sun) and Father Time.

Almost immediately the balanced composition began to shape itself in my mind and on paper.

Against the blackness of surrounding chaos, the Holy City, four-square, is descending from Heaven, as "a bride adorned for her husband." The gates of pearl are in the walls—"every several gate was of one pearl" —the four towers, to mark the corners of the city, are each topped by a flashing jewel. The tree of life with its fruits and roots waits quietly in the background to be planted in the center of the City.

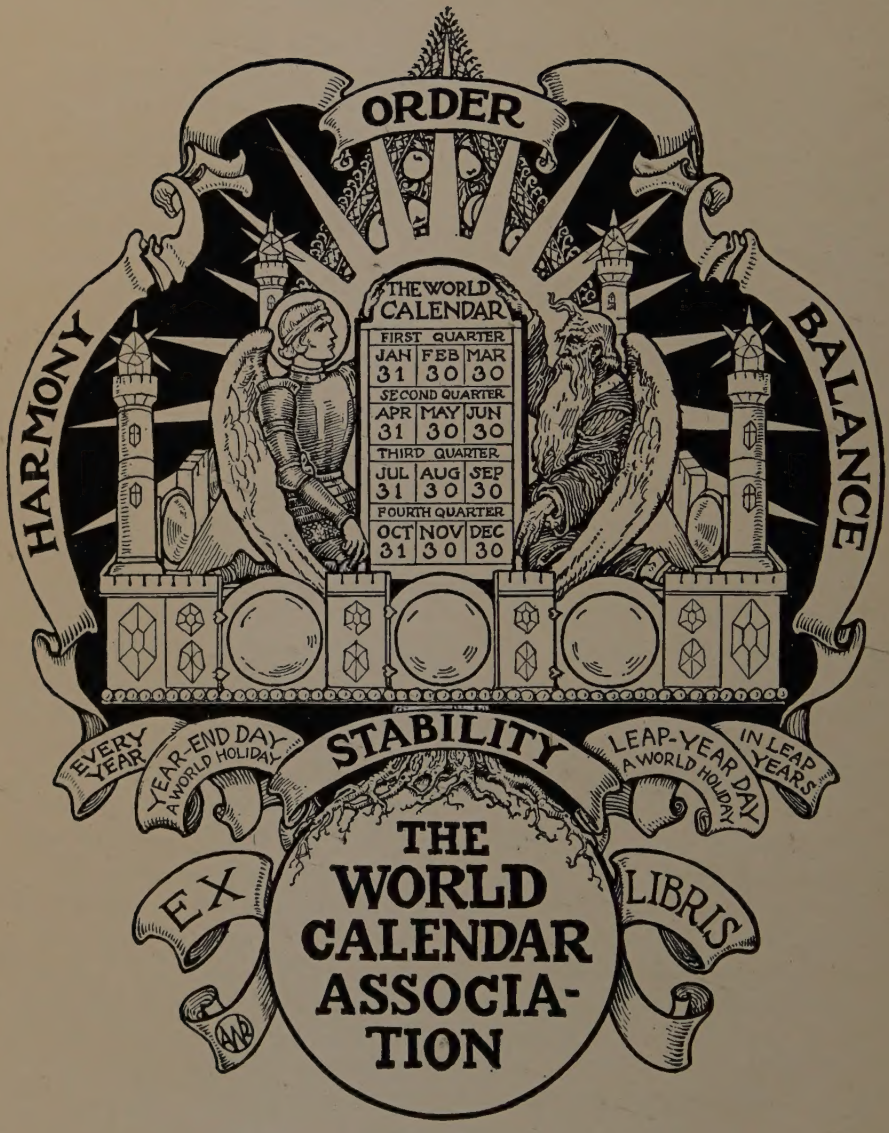
There is the "New Calendar for the New World"—upheld by Michael and Father Time, and the glorious sun of the solar calendar. This, of course, is outside of the new Jerusalem, which shines with its own light.

The problem, artistically, was to keep all this complexity simple and that is what I have striven to do.

Of all the bookplates I have made—and they have been many—I have found this the most interesting.

It has been a privilege to be thus included in the band of assistants in the grand cause of calendar reform.

Albertine Randall Wheelan.


ORDER
HARMONY
BALANCE
THE WORLD CALENDAR
FIRST QUARTER
JAN 31 FEB 30 MAR 30
SECOND QUARTER
APR 31 MAY 30 JUN 30
THIRD QUARTER
JUL 31 AUG 30 SEP 30
FOURTH QUARTER
OCT 31 NOV 30 DEC 30
EVERY YEAR
YEAR-END DAY A WORLD HOLIDAY
STABILITY
LEAP-YEAR DAY A WORLD HOLIDAY
IN LEAP YEARS
EX
LIBRIS
THE WORLD CALENDAR ASSOCIATION